



MTA LEGISLATIVE BRIEF

DATE: July 25, 1997

TO: BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FROM: GISSELLE ACEVEDO-FRANCO *gaf*

FEDERAL

- On July 23, the House of Representatives passed HR 2169, the FY 1998 Transportation Appropriations bill, by a vote of 424-5. The House legislation provides \$76 million for the Metro Red Line MOS-3 project and \$10 million for the Advanced Technology Transit Bus (ATTB) program.
- The House legislation is accompanied by report language that directs \$24 million of the \$76 million MOS-3 appropriation to be spent on the East Side extension. Additionally, the House report withholds the MOS-3 appropriation until the Federal Transit Administration, the General Accounting Office, and the Department of Transportation's Inspector General review the MTA's Rail Recovery Plan and Long Range Transportation Plan. Finally, the House report requires FTA to renegotiate parts 1A and 1B of the MOS-3 full funding grant agreement.
- On July 22, the Senate Appropriations Committee, chaired by Senator Ted Stevens (R-AK), approved the Senate Transportation Appropriations Subcommittee's \$51 million allocation for Metro Red Line MOS-3. The Appropriations Committee added \$2 million for continued development of the ATTB. (The Subcommittee had not provided funds for the ATTB project.)
- The Senate version of the legislation is accompanied by report language similar to that in the House, except that the Senate report does not direct that any funds be spent on the East Side extension, nor that parts 1A and 1B of the MOS-3 FFGA be renegotiated.
- The Senate version of the FY 1998 Transportation Appropriations bill is scheduled for floor action next week. A Conference Committee will then meet to reconcile the differences between the House and Senate versions of the legislation. Each house must then approve the Conference Report before it is sent to President Clinton for his signature.

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- AB 946 (Washington), the MTA-sponsored bill enhancing the penalties for battery against transit operators, may also be heard on the Senate floor today. Current law provides for a penalty of up to \$2,000 or a jail term for offenders convicted of this crime against a transit operator. AB 946 increases that potential fine to \$10,000. This measure has garnered a great deal of support from legislators, unions and others in the transit industry.

LOCAL

- Yesterday, the City of Los Angeles signed the MTA/City of Los Angeles Metro Red Line Segment 3 Financial Contribution Agreement for \$200 million. The FTA required a signed City/MTA agreement as part of the MTA's revised Recovery Plan.
- The League of California Cities, Los Angeles County Division, will discuss and vote on the amended version of SB 567 (Polanco), at its general membership meeting on August 7, 1997. A recommendation from the Los Angeles County Division for the current version of this bill is still pending.
- If you require any further information regarding Federal issues please call Ron Stone at (213) 922-2232, State issues call Claudette Moody at (213) 922-2237, Local issues contact Audrey Noda at (213) 922-2238.

At approximately 7:00 A.M. this morning, Mr. Eleazar Montes was killed at the Universal City Station construction site. Mr. Montes, age 34, is survived by his Mother and three brothers. Following is the statement delivered to the media by Interim CEO, Linda Bohlinger.